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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/714,707 | 11/17/2003 | Charles F. Fisler | SYS-P-1270 (8364-90589) | 2341 |

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| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| A, MINH D | |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2821 | |

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10/714,707 | FISLER, CHARLES F. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Minh D A | 2821 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07 September 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-55* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *15-22,27-29 and 40-48* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-14,23-26,30-39 and 49-55* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *7/13/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## *DETAILED ACTION*

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-14, 23-26, 30-39 and 49-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Ha et al (US 6,661,337).

Regarding claim 1, Ha discloses a processor based strobe with feedback comprising: an, energy input port (14a, 16a, 18a, 22a, 32a, etc); a current limiter (switch (30), model switch (30), control switch (32)...etc) coupled to the input port (14a, 16a, 18a, 22a, 32a, etc); a strobe circuit (element 10 or processor (12)) coupled to the current limiter with the current limiter responsive to a strobe circuit flash condition to reduce a post-flash peak current draw of the strobe circuit below a corresponding peak current value of the strobe circuit in the absence of the current limiter (switch (30), model switch (30), control switch (32)...etc). See figures 1-3, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.8, lines 1-35.

Regarding claim 2, Ha discloses a control input port for varying at least one parameter of the current limiter in accordance with a selected visual output parameter. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 3, Ha discloses the at least one parameter comprises a control voltage. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 4, Ha discloses at least one of, a manually selectable visual output parameter. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 5, Ha discloses a manually settable element to select the visual output parameter and to select a current limiter parameter. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 6, Ha discloses the manually settable element comprises at least one of a mechanical switch, or an electronic switch. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 7, Ha discloses a select the visual output parameter and to select a current limiter parameter. See figures 1-3.

Regarding claim 8, Ha discloses (original) An output device as in Claim 2 which includes at least one of a movable current limiter parameter specifying element, or a non-movable current limiter parameter specifying element.

Regarding claim 9, Ha discloses the strobe circuit (10 or 12) comprises a passive energy storage device coupled to a gas filled member. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 10, Ha discloses a manual adjustment element coupled to the current limiter, and to the strobe circuit, the adjustment element varying both a current limiting parameter of the current limiter, and a visual output parameter of the strobe circuit. See figures 1-3, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.8, lines 1-35.

Regarding claim 11, Ha discloses an adjustment element coupled to the current limiter, and, to the strobe circuit, the adjustment element varying both a current limiting parameter of the current limiter, and a visual output parameter of

the strobe circuit. See figures 1-3 and also 4-13, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.10, lines 1-47.

Regarding claim 12, Ha discloses the current limiter comprises a current sensor and an electronic switch with a control output coupled to the strobe circuit. See elements as claim 1 and figure 1.

Regarding claim 13, Ha discloses electronic switch comprises a transistor. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 14, Ha discloses a manually settable, current limiter selection element. See figure 1-3.

Regarding claim 23, Ha discloses alarm system comprising: a plurality of visual output devices, each of the devices includes a control element which is one of, mechanically movable or electrically settable, to limit a peak current draw of the respective device; and a switchable source of electrical energy to power the devices. See figures 1-3, figures 1-3, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.8, lines 1-35.Regarding claim 24, Ha discloses the output devices each includes a triggerable light emitting output device. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 25, Ha discloses the control element alters a light output parameter in accordance with the limited peak current draw. See figures 1-3, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.6, lines 1-35.

Regarding claim 26, Ha discloses where the light emitting output device comprises a gas filled member. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 30, Ha discloses alarm system comprising: a visual output element; a source of energy to illuminate the element; a control, circuit

coupled to the source of energy; and a current limiting circuit, coupled to the control circuit, to limit maximum current draw. See figures 1-3, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.8, lines 1-35.

Regarding claim 31 Ha discloses a circuitry to adjust the current limiting circuit in response to selecting one of a plurality of illumination parameters. figures 1-3, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.5, lines 1-35.

Regarding claim 32, Ha discloses the visual output element comprises a flashable gas filled member, and the current limiting circuit limits a peak charging current associated with the member. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 33, Ha discloses both the current limiting circuit and the control circuit are adjusted together in response to selecting one of a plurality of output illumination parameters. See figures 1-7.

Regarding claim 34, Ha discloses the circuitry to adjust including at least one of a manually manipulatable element. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 35, Ha discloses the circuitry to adjust including at least one of a manually manipulatable element. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 36, Ha discloses the maximum current draw is limited, subsequent to the element being illuminated, to a value associated with a selected illumination parameter. See figures 1-4.

Regarding claims 37-39, Ha discloses a current sensor coupled to a comparator, the comparator establishing at least one peak current value. See figures 1-3 and also 4-13, col.4, lines 12-67 to col.10, lines 1-47.

Regarding claims 49-50, Ha discloses where the manually manipulatable element, is one of linearly movable. See figures 1-3.

Regarding claim 50, Ha discloses manually manipulatable element is coupled to the current limiting circuit to limit current draw in accordance therewith. See figures 1-3.

Regarding claim 51, Ha discloses where the source of energy comprises a capacitor. See figure 1.

Regarding claim 52, Ha discloses a housing, the housing carries the visual output element, the capacitor, the control circuit and the current limiting circuit. See figure

Regarding claim 53, Ha discloses the housing carries a manually manipulatable control member to select an illumination parameter. See figure 1.

Regarding 54. Ha discloses where the control member comprises one of linearly movable. See figures 104.

Regarding claim 55, Ha discloses where the control member comprises a switch. See figure 1.

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Has et al (US 6,242,872) and Ha et al. (US 6,049,446) are cited to show alarm system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Minh A whose telephone number is

(571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 –2:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong, can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1553.

Examiner

Minh A

Art unit 2821

11/29/04

TUYET VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER